AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 21, with the following amended paragraph:

 R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 are independently selected from halogeno, cyano, nitro, $C_{1\text{-}3}$ alkylsulphanyl, $-N(OH)R^{12}$ (wherein R^{12} is hydrogen, or $C_{1\text{-}3}$ alkyl), or $R^{14}X^1$ - (wherein X^1 represents a direct bond, -O-, $-CH_2$ -, -OC(O)-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2$ -, $-NR^{15}C(O)$ -, $-C(O)NR^{16}$ -, $-SO_2NR^{17}$ -, $-NR^{18}SO_2$ - or $-NR^{19}$ - (wherein R^{15} , R^{16} , R^{17} , R^{18} and R^{19} each independently represents hydrogen, $C_{1\text{-}3}$ alkyl or $C_{1\text{-}3}$ alkoxy $C_{2\text{-}3}$ alkyl), and R^{14} is hydrogen, optionally substituted hydrocarbyl, optionally substituted heterocyclyl or optionally substituted alkoxy); in the preparation of a medicament for use in the inhibition inhibition of aurora 2 kinase.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

In this specification the term 'alkyl' when used either alone or as a suffix includes straight chained [[,]] or branched structures. Unless otherwise stated, these groups may contain up to 10, preferably up to 6 and more preferably up to 4 carbon atoms. Similarly the terms "alkenyl" and "alkynyl" refer to unsaturated straight or branched structures containing for example from 2 to 10, preferably from 2 to 6 carbon atoms. Cyclic moieties such as cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl and cycloalkynyl are similar in nature but have at least 3 carbon atoms. Terms such as "alkoxy" comprise alkyl groups as is understood in the art.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 3, with the following amended paragraph:

3) $-R^bX^3R^{25}$ (wherein X^3 represents -O-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -OC(O)-, -NR²⁶C(O)-, -NR²⁶C(O)O-, -C(O)NR²⁷-, -C(O)ONR²⁷-, -SO₂NR²⁸-, -NR²⁹SO₂- or -NR³⁰- (wherein R²⁶, R²⁷,

R²⁸, R²⁹ and R³⁰ each independently represents hydrogen, or alkyl optionally substituted with a functional group) and R²⁵ represents hydrogen, hydrocarbyl (as defined herein) or a saturated heterocyclic group, wherein the hydrocarbyl or heterocyclic groups may be optionally substituted by one or more functional groups and the heterocyclic groups may additionally be substituted by a hydrocarbyl group);

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 22 with the following amended paragraph:

9) R³⁸ (wherein R³⁸ represents a pyridone group, an aryl group or an aromatic heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-3 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, which pyridone, aryl or aromatic heterocyclic group may be substituted by one or more functional groups or by a hydrocarbyl group optionally substituted by one or more functional groups or heterocyclyl groups, or by a heterocyclyl group optionally substituted substituted by one or more functional groups or hydrocarbyl groups;

Please replace the bridging paragraph between pages 8 and 9 with the following amended paragraph:

22) - $R^v R^{63}(R^{v'})_q(X^9)_r R^{64}$ (wherein X^9 is as defined hereinbefore, q is 0 or 1, r is 0 or 1, and R^{63} is a C_{1-3} alkylene group or a cyclic group selected from divalent cycloalkyl or heterocyclic group, which C_{1-3} alkylene group may be substituted by one or more functional groups and which cyclic group may be substituted by one or more functional groups or by a hydrocarbyl group optionally substituted by one or more functional groups or heterocyclyl groups, or by a heterocyclyl group optionally substituted by one or more functional groups or hydrocarbyl groups; and R^{64} is hydrogen, C_{1-3} alkyl, or a cyclic group selected from cycloalkyl or heterocyclic group, which C_{1-3} alkyl group may be substituted by one or more functional groups and which cyclic group may be substituted by one or more functional groups or hydrocarbyl group optionally substituted by one or more functional groups or heterocyclyl

groups, or by a heterocyclyl group optionally substituted by one or more functional groups or hydrocarbyl groups;

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 5 with the following amended paragraph:

and wherein R^a , R^b , [[,]] R^c , R^c , R^d , R^g , R^j , R^n , R^n , R^p , R^{pl} , R^t , R^u , R^v and $R^{v'}$ are independently selected from C_{1-8} alkylene groups optionally substitued by one or more functional groups,

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 10, with the following amended paragraph:

 R^f , R^i , R^m and R^u are independently selected from C_{2-8} alkynylene groups optionally substituted by one or more functional groups).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 12, with the following amended paragraph:

In particular R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 are independently selected from, halogeno, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxy, C_{1-3} alkylsulphanyl, $-NR^{12}R^{13}$ (wherein R^{12} and R^{13} , which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen, or C_{1-3} alkyl and one of R^{12} or R^{13} may additionally be hydroxy), or $R^{14}X^1$ - [[(]]wherein X^1 represents a direct bond, -O-, $-CH_2$ -, -OC(O)-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, -SO-, $-NR^{15}C(O)$ -, $-C(O)NR^{16}$ -, $-SO_2NR^{17}$ -, $-NR^{18}SO_2$ - or $-NR^{19}$ - (wherein R^{15} , R^{16} , R^{17} , R^{18} and R^{19} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkoxy C_{2-3} alkyl), and R^{14} is selected from one of the following groups:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13 line 22, with the following amended paragraph:

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2') C_{1-5} alkyl X^2 COR²⁰ (wherein X^2 represents -O- or -NR²¹- (in which R²⁰ represents hydrogen, C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkoxy C_{2-3} alkyl) and R²¹ represents C_{1-3} alkyl, -NR²²R²³ or -OR²⁴ (wherein R²², R²³ and R²⁴ which may be the same or different each represents hydrogen, C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkoxy C_{2-3} alkyl));

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

9') R³⁸ (wherein R³⁸ represents a pyridone group, a phenyl group or a 5-6-membered aromatic heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-3 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, which pyridone, phenyl or aromatic heterocyclic group may carry up to 5 substituents on an available carbon atom selected from hydroxy, halogeno, amino, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋₄aminoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkylamino, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkoxy, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, -CONR³⁹R⁴⁰ and -NR⁴¹COR⁴² (wherein R³⁹, R⁴⁰, R⁴¹ and R⁴², which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen, C₁₋₄alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl));

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

and R⁶ and R⁷ are independently selected from hydrogen, halo,C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkoxymethyl, di(C₁₋₄alkoxy)methyl, C₁₋₄alkanoyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, C₂₋₅alkenyl, C₂₋₅alkynyl, a phenyl group, a benzyl group or a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group with 1-3 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may be aromatic or non-aromatic and may be saturated (linked via a ring carbon or nitrogen atom) or unsaturated (linked via a ring carbon atom), and which phenyl, benzyl or heterocyclic group may bear on one or more ring carbon atoms up to 5 substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno, C₁₋₃alkyl, C₁₋₃alkoxy, C₁₋₃alkanoyloxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro, C₂₋₄alkanoyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphanyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphanyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphinyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphonyl, carbamoyl, N-C₁₋₄alkylcarbamoyl, N,N-di(C₁₋₄alkyl)carbamoyl, aminosulphonyl, N-C₁₋₄alkylaminosulphonyl, N,N-di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminosulphonyl,

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C₁₋₄alkylsulphonylamino, and a saturated heterocyclic group selected from morpholino, thiomorpholino, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, imidazolidinyl and pyrazolidinyl, which saturated heterocyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, C₁₋₃alkyl, C₁₋₃alkoxy, C₁₋₃alkanoyloxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro and C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, and

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 20 with the following amended paragraph:

 R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 are independently selected from, halo, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-3} alkyl, -NR 9 R 10 (wherein R^9 and R^{10} , which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl), or - X^1 R 14 [[(]]wherein X^1 represents a direct bond, -O-, -CH₂-, -OCO-, carbonyl, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -NR 12 CO-, -CONR 12 -, -SO₂NR 12 -, -NR 13 SO₂- or -NR 14 - (wherein R^{12} , R^{13} and R^{14} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkoxy C_{2-3} alkyl), and R^{14} is selected from one of the following groups:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 28 with the following amended paragraph:

hydrogen, C₁₋₄alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl));

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 17 with the following amended paragraph:

17') C₁₋₃alkylX⁹C₁₋₃alkylR³⁷ (wherein X⁹ and R³⁷ are as defined hereinbefore (in 5')) in the preparation of a medicament for use in the inhibition inhibition of aurora 2 kinase.

Please replace the bridging paragraph between pages 20-21 with the following amended paragraph:

and R⁶ and R⁷ are independently selected from hydrogen, halo, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkoxymethyl, di(C₁₋₄alkoxy)methyl, C₁₋₄alkanoyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, C₂₋₅alkenyl, C₂₋₅alkynyl, a phenyl group, a benzyl group or a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group with 1-3 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may be aromatic or non-aromatic and may be saturated (linked via a ring carbon or nitrogen atom) or unsaturated (linked via a ring carbon atom), and which phenyl, benzyl or heterocyclic group may bear on one or more ring carbon atoms up to 5 substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno, C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxy, C_{1-3} alkanoyloxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro, C_{2-4} alkanoyl, C_{1-4} alkanoylamino, C_{1-4} alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4} alkylsulphanyl, C_{1-4} alkylsulphinyl, C_{1-4} alkylsulphonyl, carbamoyl, N- C_{1-4} alkylcarbamoyl, N,N-di(C_{1-4} alkyl)carbamoyl, aminosulphonyl, N-C₁₋₄alkylaminosulphonyl, N,N-di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminosulphonyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphonylamino, and a saturated heterocyclic group selected from morpholino, thiomorpholino, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, imidazolidinyl and pyrazolidinyl, which saturated heterocyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, C₁₋₃alkyl, C₁₋₃alkoxy, C₁₋₃alkanoyloxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro and C₁₄alkoxycarbonyl, and

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 21, line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

2') C_{1-5} alkyl X^2 COR²⁰ (wherein X^2 represents -O- or -NR²¹- (in which R²⁰ represents hydrogen, C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkoxy C_{2-3} alkyl) and R²¹ represents C_{1-3} alkyl, -NR²²R²³ or -OR²⁴ (wherein R²², R²³ and R²⁴ which may be the same or different each represents hydrogen, C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkoxy C_{2-3} alkyl));

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

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17') C_{1-3} alkyl X^9C_{1-3} alkyl R^{37} (wherein X^9 and R^{37} are as defined hereinbefore (in 5') in the preparation of a medicament for use in the inhibition inhibition of aurora 2 kinase.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 14 with the following amended paragraph:

R⁶ and R⁷ are independently selected from hydrogen, halo, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₄alkoxymethyl, di(C₁₄alkoxy)methyl, C₁₄alkanoyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, C₂₋₅alkenyl, C₂₋₅alkynyl, a phenyl group, a benzyl group or a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group with 1-3 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may be aromatic or non-aromatic and may be saturated (linked via a ring carbon or nitrogen atom) or unsaturated (linked via a ring carbon atom), and which phenyl, benzyl or heterocyclic group may bear on one or more ring carbon atoms up to 5 substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno, C₁₋₃alkyl, C₁₋₃alkoxy, C₁₋₃alkanoyloxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro, C₂₋₄alkanoyl, C₁₄alkanoylamino, C₁₄alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₄alkylsulphanyl, C₁₄alkylsulphinyl, C_{1-4} alkylsulphonyl, carbamoyl, \underline{N} - C_{1-4} alkylcarbamoyl, \underline{N} - \underline{N} - \underline{M} - $\underline{$ aminosulphonyl, N-C₁₋₄alkylaminosulphonyl, N,N-di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminosulphonyl, Ci_alkylsulphonylamino, and a saturated heterocyclic group selected from morpholino, thiomorpholino, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, imidazolidinyl and pyrazolidinyl, which saturated heterocyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, C₁₋₃alkyl, C₁₋₃alkoxy, C₁₋₃alkanoyloxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, amino, nitro and C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, and

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 9 with the following amended paragraph:

2') C_{1-5} alkyl X^2COR^{20} (wherein X^2 represents -O- or -NR²¹- (in which R²⁰ represents hydrogen, C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkoxy C_{2-3} alkyl) and R²¹ represents C_{1-3} alkyl, -NR²²R²³ or -OR²⁴ (wherein R²², R²³ and R²⁴ which may be the same or different each represents hydrogen, C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkoxy C_{2-3} alkyl));

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

9') R³⁸ (wherein R³⁸ represents a pyridone group, a phenyl group or a 5-6-membered aromatic heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-3 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, which pyridone, phenyl or aromatic heterocyclic group may carry up to 5 substituents on an available carbon atom selected from hydroxy, halogeno, amino, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋₄aminoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkylamino, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkoxy, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, -CONR³⁹R⁴⁰ and -NR⁴¹COR⁴² (wherein R³⁹, R⁴⁰, R⁴¹ and R⁴², which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen, C₁₋₄alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl));

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 28 with the following amended paragraph:

17') C_{1-3} alkyl X^9C_{1-3} alkyl R^{37} (wherein X^9 and R^{37} are as defined hereinbefore (in 5') in the preparation of a medicament for use in the inhibition inhibition of aurora 2 kinase.

Please replace formula (IVB) begining on page 33, line 9, with the following formula:

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^7 \\
R^6 \\
R^{66} \\
R^{67} \\
R^4
\end{array}$$

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Please insert the following abstract, as shown on the next page, on a new page at the end of the specification: